

PAB 7 26/

To: ERD/DEAR (EPAS511)
To: T.MASSEY (EL00374)
From: T.MASSEY (EPAS374) Posted: Sun 25-Jan-87 23:13 EST Sys 63 (95)
Subject: DCI EMERGENCY RESPONSE POLREP #1

POLREP #1
CERCLA EMERGENCY RESPONSE
DCI CIRCUITS INC.
PLUMSTEADVILLE, BUCKS CO, PA

ATTN: TOM MASSEY AND TIM FIELDS

I. SITUATION: 1900 HOURS, SUNDAY, 1/25/87

A. LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS RESPOND TO CHEMICAL FIRE AT DCI AT APPROX 0900 HOURS THIS DATE. SEVEN FIREFIGHTERS TREATED AT HOSPITAL AS RESULT OF EXPOSURE TO ACID FUMES, FIVE RELEASED, TWO ADMITTED. FIRE EXTINGUISHED AT APPROX 1100 HOURS.

B. OSC ARAI AND TAT TUCKER AND WHALLON ON SCENE AT 1500 HOURS. ACIDIC SOLUTIONS CONTAINING METALS COVER FLOOR, AND ESCAPED TO SMALL STREAM AS RESULT OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF WATER USED IN FIRE FIGHTING. RP SPILL CONTRACTOR ON SCENE TO CONTAIN CONTAMINANTS.

C. PERSONNEL ON SCENE: EPA-1, TAT-2, BUCKS CO HEALTH-1, BUCKS CO FIRE DEPT, PLUMSTEADVILLE VOL FIRE DEPT, RP-1, RP SPILL CONTRACTOR-4.

D. WEATHER: CLOUDY AND COLD, HIGH IN THE 20S, HEAVY PM SNOW EXPECTED.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

A. LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS RESPOND TO CHEMICAL FIRE AT APPROX 0900 HOURS. FIRE EXTINGUISHED AT APPROX 1100 HOURS. FIRE EXPECTED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY PLATING TANK CONTAINING SULPHURIC ACID BEING LEFT ON (HEATED) ALLOWING HYDROGEN GAS TO ACCUMULATE IN ENCLOSED BUILDING. FIRE DEPT PERSONNEL SHUT OFF ELECTRICITY AND GAS, INCLUDING SUMP PUMP TO SANITARY SEWER. SEWER AUTHORITY NOTIFIED OF POSSIBLE INFLUX OF ACID AND HEAVY METALS.

B. RAC NOTIFIED AT 1000 HOURS. OSC ARAI AND TAT TUCKER AND WHALLON NOTIFIED AT 1200 HOURS, AND ARRIVE ON SCENE AT 1500 HOURS TO BE BRIEFED ON SITE SITUATION.

C. DCI IS INACTIVE PRINTED CIRCUIT MANUFACTURER WHICH HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE SEPTEMBER 1986. DCI IS SUBSIDIARY OF CIRFLEX SYSTEMS INC., HUNTINGDON VALLEY, PA.

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D. OBC, TAT, AND FIRE DEPT PERSONNEL INSPECT FACILITY. ACID SOLUTIONS (PH 1) CONTAINING HEAVY METALS (CU, PB, SN) COVER MUCH OF FLOOR WITHIN FACILITY. FACILITY CONTAINS AN ESTIMATED 180 DRUMS AND OTHER CONTAINERS CONTAINING SULPHURIC ACID, HYDROCHLORIC ACID, NITRIC ACID, FLUOBORIC ACID, ACETIC ACID, PHOSPHORIC ACID, AMMONIUM HYDROXIDE, SODIUM HYDROXIDE, POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE, POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE, HYDROGEN PEROXIDE, DRY POWDERED OXIDIZER, COPPER SULFATE, AMMONIUM PERSULFATE, 1,1,1, TRICHOETANE, MISC REAGENTS, AND OTHER CHEMICALS. VATS WITHIN FACILITY CONTAINED ACID SOLUTION, AND PB, SN, AND CU SOLUTIONS. A NUMBER OF VATS AND CONTAINERS WERE DESTROYED BY FIRE. ACID SOLUTIONS COVER MUCH OF FLOOR.

E. OBC CONTACTS RP (DCI/ROGER BURKE) AT 1600 HOURS TO DETERMINE WHAT ACTIONS ARE BEING TAKEN TO ABATE THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT. RP REPORTS THAT SPILL CLEANUP CONTRACTOR (NEPCCO) TO BE ON SCENE ASAP.

F. TAT INSPECTS RUNOFF FROM FACILITY. FIRE COMPANIES USED ESTIMATED 2000 GAL OF WATER TO EXTINGUISH FIRE. WATER EXITED TO DRAINAGE DITCHES BESIDE FACILITY AND TRAVELLED TO DITCH PARALLELING RT 611 AND UNDER RT 611 BY WAY OF CULVERT PIPE. RUNOFF DETERMINED TO HAVE PH 1-2 IN DITCH NEAR FACILITY AND ALSO BEYOND RT 611, FLOW RATE APPROX 0.5-1.0 GPM. RUNOFF HAS DISTINCTIVE BLUE-GREEN COLOR INDICATING ACIDIC COPPER SOLUTION.

G. RP (BURKE) AND RP SPILL CONTRACTOR (NEPCCO) ON SCENE AT 1630 HOURS TO MEET WITH OBC TO DISCUSS CLEANUP STRATEGIES. RP AGREES TO SEAL OFF ALL ENTRANCES TO FACILITY, CHANNEL MELTING SNOW FROM THE ROOF AWAY FROM CONTAMINATION, SEAL OFF ALL OPEN MIGRATION ROUTES OF WATER RUNOFF FROM THE BUILDING, AND SEAL OFF THE DRAINAGE DITCH LEADING TO CULVERT UNDER RT 611.

H. TAT PERFORMS INSPECTION OF FACILITY TO PROVIDE ESTIMATED INVENTORY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS WITHIN THE BUILDING. HAZARDOUS WASTE LABELS WERE FOUND ON 40-50 DRUMS WITH ACCUMULATION START DATES OF APRIL 24, 1986. HAZARDOUS WASTE SUSPECTED TO INCLUDE ACIDS, BASES, AND OXIDIZERS. POOR HOUSEKEEPING PRACTICES NOTED, SUCH AS ACIDS STORED IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO BASES AND OXIDIZERS.

I. DUE TO FREEZING TEMPERATURES, OBC CONCERNED OF DRUMS BEARING DO NOT FREEZE LABELS.

III. FUTURE PLANS

A. OBC TO REFER CASE TO RCRA ENFORCEMENT.

B. OBC TO MONITOR CLEANUP ACTIVITIES.

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ON-SCENE COORDINATOR
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